THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Three pesticides which have been mentioned in the 'Business Standard of 27th April, 1990 are DDT, BHC and Malathion. The use of DDT in agricultural sector has been banned and the use of BHC restricted to certain crops in agriculture. However, there is no proposal at present to ban the use of malathion.

(b) and (c) Government has identified 17 pesticides for review by an Expert Committee as these are reported to be restricted/banned in certain countries. The names of these pesticides are—2, 4-D, Aldicarb, Carbaryl, Dicofol, Dimethoate, Endosulfan, Lindane, Methyl, Parathion, Nitrofen, Paraquat, Nicotine Sulphate, P.C.P., Phorate, P.M.A., Tetradiforn, Zinc Phosphide and Aluminium Phosphide. The decision for banning/restricting the use of these pesticides in the country could be taken only after the recommendations of the Committee are received by the Government.

(d) The representation of VHAI is under examination.

Collection of up-to-date Information of pesticides poisoning, etc.

1769. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Thacker Committee 1964 on pesticides had recommended in appendix 2 and appendix 3 (table 8 and 9) for collection of information, State-wise and year-wise, on incidents of human pesticides poisoning as also state-wise datas on suicides and homicides and whether this information has been updated, if, the details thereof, and if not, whether this would be collected and brought out in public interest;

(b) what were the other recommendations of the above Committee and action taken thereon;

(c) whether Appendix 4 (table 10) contains incidents of pesticide toxity to domestic animals and if so, the details of updated information;

(d) whether information on Toxity to fish (table 11) has been updated and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether similar information in Table 12 for beneficial insects and wildlife have also been updated and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether ICMR or any other Central body is collecting details of the pesticides poisoning and if so, the details thereof for the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Drug addiction amongst students in Lucknow, U.P.

1770. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Drug addiction is becoming more serious as per survey conducted amongst students in Lucknow as published in the National Herald of 10th March, 1990;

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to overcome this serious problem; and